

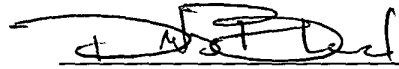
REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is filed to correct typographical errors from an earlier Preliminary Amendment.

If the Examiner has any suggestions for placing this application in even better form, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned and the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: December 5, 2001



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APPENDIXIN THE CLAIMS:

4. (Amended twice) The prepuff of claim 1, obtainable by cutting a [roamed] foamed extrudate.

15. (Amended) The prepuff of claim 2, further comprising a polytetrafluoroethylene resin in an amount ranging from 0.005 to 0.1 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the prepuff, wherein the prepuff is obtainable by cutting a strand shaped foamed [extricate] extrudate into generally cylindrical shapes